

Weekly Column for May 3, 2007

This is quite the exciting weekend coming up in the City of Troy, and it feels like it to. Outside, that is. If you were to look up the words "perfect day" in the dictionary, I think you'd be hard pressed to find something better than this.

On Saturday, we have the continued annual rite of spring, with three Little League openings in a row, from 9 a.m. straight through noon. South Troy Little League, Central Little League, and Lansingburgh Independent all open the baseball season on Saturday. I look forward to attending these events each year because they are so pure. New leaves on the trees, kids learning to play America's pastime, and neighborhoods and communities coming together for something positive.

Sunday is going to be a bit busier, as we have two major events taking place along the Hudson River and our historic downtown. The first is the Second Annual Striped Bass Fishing Tournament. Though it is only in its second year, the tournament has had recognition and interest and is almost impossible to comprehend. People are coming to Troy from around the world to participate this weekend. As of today more than 320 people have entered the contest, and organizers expect first prize to be nearly \$7,000. Last year, the gentleman who won caught the fish right off of the shore, much to the chagrin of the boaters.

If you are signed up for the tournament, I wish you the best of luck. If you are not fishing, it is no excuse to not participate. Beginning in the afternoon, we will shut down River Street outside of the Ale House for a Block Party. There will be music, food, beverages, and of course the awarding of the Mayor's Cup shortly after 6 p.m. Sunday evening. It will be a great time, and I urge each of you to stop down.

There is also a very important event happening Sunday morning that occurs every year for a great cause. The annual Literacy Run Fundraiser will take place downtown on Sunday morning. There will be a Fun Run, a Youth Mile race, and of course, the Open 5K that will begin at 10 a.m. The awards ceremony will take place at 11:15 a.m. in front of City Hall. The Literacy Volunteers is a great group that donates much of their time to a very important cause, and the annual run is always an important event for them.

As you can see, there is a great amount of fun to be had this weekend in Troy. We are starting to get to a point where that is the case every weekend. That is very exciting.

Enjoy the wonderful weather, and have a relaxing time with whatever it is you choose to do.

Harry J Tutunjian  
Mayor of Troy

P.S. If you are reading this on Thursday, stop by the Hot Spot Café on Fourth Street tonight for Keith Pray's Soul BBQ on stage. Starts at 8 p.m. and sounds very interesting.